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Viktor Lesiovsky, a Diplomat Reportedly Linked to Spies

Viktor M. Lesiovsky, a Soviet diplomat who was reportedly linked to Soviet intelligence while working for the United Nations, died Feb. 28 in Moscow. He was 63 years old.

Mr. Lesiovsky, who had been associated with the United Nations in various capacities since the early 1960's, figured in the news after a Soviet defector, Arkady N. Shevchenko, said in September 1979 in an interview with the British Broadcasting Corporation that Soviet intelligence agents had achieved "very substantial" penetration into the United Nations Secretariat.

Mr. Shevchenko, who was an Under Secretary General of the United Nations before his defection in 1978, said in the BBC broadcast that one Soviet agent was a special assistant to Kurt Waldheim, who was then Secretary General. The narrator of the broadcast said the only Russian in that post was Mr. Lesiovsky.

The United Nations never acted on Mr. Shevchenko's charges, saying that they were unsubstantiated allegations and had not been presented formally by any member government. Mr. Lesiovsky remained on Mr. Waldheim's personal staff until 1981.

The Soviet diplomat's death was disclosed March 2 in a death notice placed by the Soviet Foreign Ministry in the Moscow newspaper Vechernyaya Moskva. The notice identified Mr. Lesiovsky as a "responsible staff member" of the Foreign Ministry, with the diplomatic rank of Minister Plenipotentiary.